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Storm in Heaven
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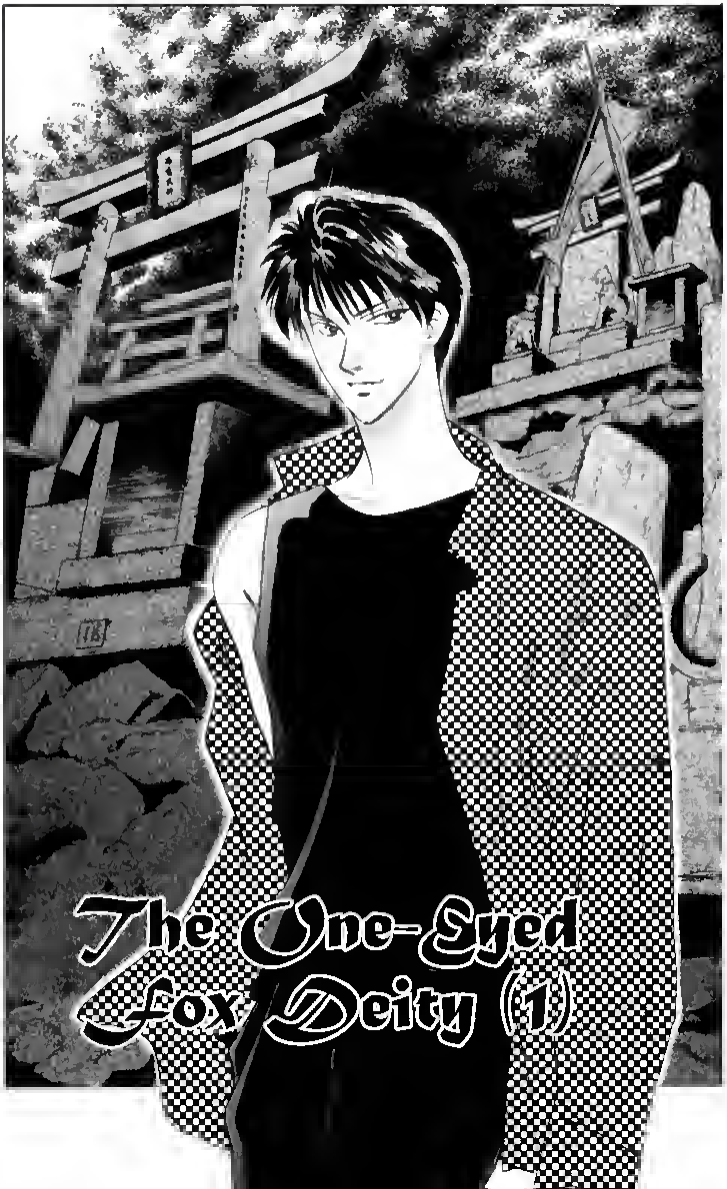

The One-Eyed
Fox Deity (1)

KURAKI-KUN!
DID YOU WAIT LONG?!
NO
I'M SORRY FOR CALLING YOU OUT SO SUDDENLY!

SO?
WHAT DOES EMA-SENPAI WANT FROM ME?
I ONLY HEARD THAT IT WAS ABOUT A STOLEN SWORD,
AND THAT WE'D UNDERSTAND IF WE CAME TO THE UNIVERSITY.
I'M BUSY, YOU KNOW...
B... BUT, LISTEN
HE SAID IT WAS ABOUT A SWORD.
IF YOU COULD FIND THEM THE SECOND YOU CAME TO TOKYO,
IT WOULDN'T HAVE TROUBLED THE FUZUCHI FAMILY FOR SO YEARS
ANYWAY, IT'S A FAKE
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY FAITH, HUH?
IN EMA-SENPAI..

OH, MY!
KURAKI-KUN, IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME.
HOW NICE THAT YOU'RE HERE.
EMA-SEN-PAI...
.....
What's with the forked hairdo?
WELL, WELL SIT DOWN, SIT DOWN!
HOW ABOUT SOMETHING TO DRINK?! COFFEE? TEA?!
NO, NOTHING AT THE MOMENT...
WHAT?
THERE'S NO NEED TO HOLD BACK. IT'S MY TREAT. I'M TREATING!
NO SECRETS, PLEASE!
WHAT? WHAT?
Kuraki-kun
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO HAVE FAITH IN HIM?

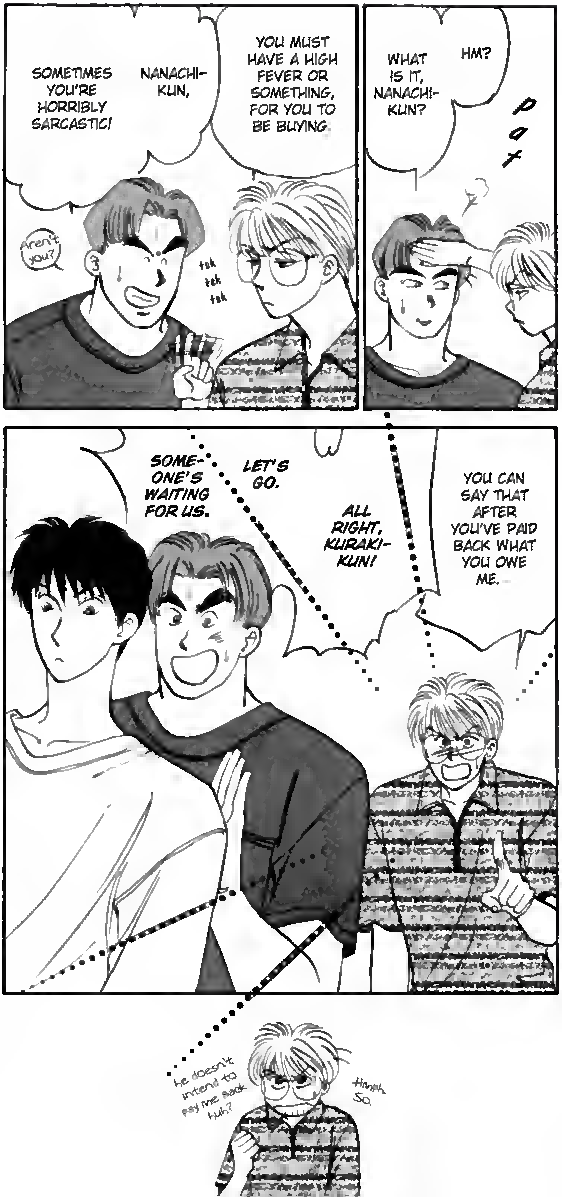
FREE TALK 〈3〉

このオフセットにあたればトーンを多用しようがそれなりに出るのですが、前に言ったよーにオフセットにあたる事はめったにない。(LaLaの場合オフセットは巻頭のみ。もう少し増やすという話を聞いたがいつになるやら一)

そんなわけで雑誌掲載の時の原稿にはトーンをひかえるようにしておいて単行本にする時に思いっきりはりなおすわけです。

特に「獣王星」等SFはさらにトーンワークが命の作風ですので「入墨立つ」より二割がた多くはっとります。

この間の「獣王星」の時はトーンだけで3日間、加筆に(こういう場合加トーンというのか!?)時間をかけました。比べるとこれが同じ作品か!?というくらいに変わります。ははは



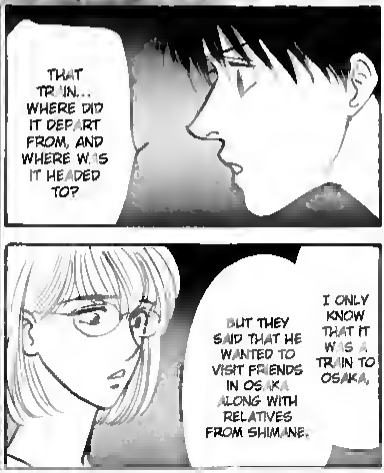
SEIKO-SAN
EMA-SENPAI
A FRIEND OF MINE, WHO'S STUDYING FOLKLORE AT THE UNIVERSITY.
WHEN I TOLD HER ABOUT YOU, SHE REALLY WANTED TO MEET YOU.
WHO'S WAITING FOR US?
WHO IS IT?
EMA-SENPAI TOLD ME ABOUT THE SWORDS THAT WERE STOLEN FROM YOUR FAMILY,
SO I WANTED TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING THAT I'D DISCOVERED
AND THIS GUY'S NANACHI-KUN, WHO TAGGED ALONG UNINVITED
SEIKO-SAN, THIS IS FUZUCHI-KUN.
I'M SORRY YOU HAD TO COME ALL THE WAY HERE
I'M TOMIOKA SEIKO.
WHO'S UNINVITED?

WELL, IT'S AN OLD PHOTO AND I'M AFRAID IT'S SO SMALL THAT IT'S HARD TO SEE...
BUT THIS SHRINE PRIESTESS IS HOLDING A SWORD
CLATTER
KURAKI-KUN?!

"TAKE-MIKA-ZUCHI"...!
WH... WHAT?
IT'S THE REAL THING?!
SEIKO-SAN, WHERE DID YOU GET THIS PHOTO ...?!
ACTU-ALLY,
THAT SHRINE PRIEST-ESS IS MY AUNT.
BUT
IT SEEMS THAT SHE SOLD THAT SWORD LONG AGO.
I HEARD THAT IT WAS IN HER POSSESSION UNTIL 1947.
WHEN WAS THAT?
SOLD IT!?

THAT SWORD WAS LYING NEXT TO HIM.
WHEN THE RELATIVES WHO'D TRAVELLED WITH HIM FOUND HIS BODY,
MANY PEOPLE DIED, AND IT WAS A HUGE DISASTER
SO THEY BROUGHT IT HOME TO HIS FAMILY, AS SOME KIND OF REMEMBRANCE APPARENTLY
THEY DIDN'T KNOW WHO THE OWNER WAS
HE PASSED AWAY EARLY IN 1945
IT WAS A KEEPSAKE OF MY GRANDFATHER
HE WENT TO A RELATIVE'S MEMORIAL SERVICE AND THE TRAIN HE WAS RETURNING ON WAS HIT IN THE B29 AIR RAID
WHERE DID YOUR AUNT GET THAT SWORD FROM?!

THEN I'M SURE THAT IT PASSED THROUGH IZUMO!
SHIMANE!
THERE IS NO DOUBT ABOUT IT...


THAT TRAIN... WHERE DID IT DEPART FROM, AND WHERE WAS IT HEADED TO?
BUT THEY SAID THAT HE WANTED TO VISIT FRIENDS IN OSAKA ALONG WITH RELATIVES FROM SHIMANE.
I ONLY KNOW THAT IT WAS A TRAIN TO OSAKA.

THOSE GUYS HAD BAD LUCK, TOO.
TO THINK THEY GOT HIT IN THE AIR RAID THERE.
Or was it divine punish-ment?
THEY WERE HEADED TO OSAKA!
THE HOLY SWORDS WERE STOLEN FROM IZUMO ON THE THIRD OF JANUARY IN 1945!
WELL,
I WONDER IF IT WAS JUST "BAD LUCK"...
BAD LUCK..
MY GRAND-FATHER WAS A SHINTO PRIEST AT THE ARAHAKA SHRINE
BUT IT FEELS LIKE FATE.
HUH ...?

"ARA-HAKA"
THAT SHRINE WHERE THEY WORSHIPPED THE GOD ARABAKI?!
YOU SURE KNOW YOUR STUFF.
THAT'S RIGHT!
THE NAME IS WELL-KNOWN, I GUESS

WHO'S THAT GOD, ARABAKI?
IT'S AN ANCIENT GOD. YOU CAN FIND TRACES OF HIS FAITH IN THE EASTERN PROVINCES, AND ESPECIALLY IN THE TSUGARU REGION.
HE'S THE "GOD" WHO THE ANCIENT IZUMO TRIBE OF "NAGASUNEHIKO" BELIEVED IN

IN THE MIDDLE OF THE THIRD CENTURY...
THERE WAS A CLASH BETWEEN THE EASTERN EXPEDITION ARMY OF THE FIRST EMPEROR JINMU...
AND THE ARMY OF THE BROTHERS NAGASUNEHIKO AND ABIKHIKO OF THE ROYAL YAMATO FAMILY
NAGASUNEHIKO WAS DEFEATED AND FLED FAR TO THE EAST.
SOON HE REACHED TSUGARU.
THERE HE TOOK THE LEADERSHIP OF THE ARABAKI TRIBE THAT WORSHIPPED THE GOD OF ARABAKI.

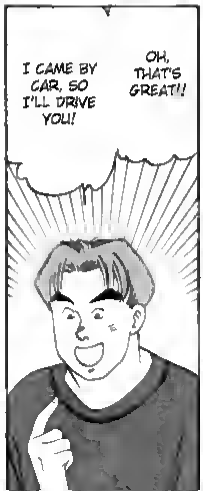
I SEE...
THAT WAS REALLY FATE.
IT'S A FACT THAT A GROUP LIVED THERE THAT HAD COME FROM THE HYUGA REGION (THE PRESENT MIYAZAKI PREFECTURE)
THAT WAS THE TRIBE WHICH THE YAMATO DYNASTY EMANATED FROM.
BUT THAT EMPEROR JINMU IS A MYTHICAL FIGURE, ISN'T HE?
THERE'S ALSO THE THEORY THAT THAT FIRST EMPEROR, WHO WAS IN HIS TEENS OR SO, WAS MADE UP LATER.
YES, BUT...
THE HOLY SWORD THAT WAS STOLEN FROM IZUMO ..
CAME TO THE "GOD" THAT WAS WORSHIPPED BY ITS TRIBE THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO
IT'S LIKE THE SWORDS HAVE A WILL
IF IT'S LIKE THAT..
ARE THEY WAITING SOMEWHERE NOW, TOO?
FOR THE DAY WHEN THEY CAN RETURN TO THEIR RIGHTFUL PLACE —

YOU SEE,
I DID CALL YOU HERE BECAUSE OF THE SWORD, TOO,
BUT I ALSO WANTED TO ASK YOUR ADVICE ABOUT MY AUNT.
SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN A STRANGE PERSON,
BUT FOR ABOUT A YEAR NOW HER BEHAV-IOUR HAS BECOME EVEN STRANGER.
SHE SHUTS HERSELF UP IN THE MAIN SHRINE AND WON'T SEE ANYBODY, SO MY MOTHER IS REALLY WORRIED.
YOUR AUNT?
THIS SHRINE PRIEST-ESS?
IT SEEMS THAT, FOR A FEW YEARS AFTER THE WAR, MY AUNT WAS ACTING AS AN EXORCIST INSTEAD OF A SHRINE PRIESTESS.
THEY SAY THAT SHE WAS FAMOUS FOR EXORCISING AND HEALING DISEASES.
SHE'S THAT KIND OF PERSON. SO IF SOME-THING WAS TO HAPPEN...
YOU'RE RIGHT!
DID SHE... ACCIDEN-TALLY USE THE SPIRI-TUAL POWER OF THE SWORD?
THAT ...
WAS WHEN THE HOLY SWORD WAS IN HER POS-SESSION, WASN'T IT?

IT'S A SWORD THAT HAS MIRACULOUS POWERS
IF SOMEONE WITHOUT MUCH SPIRITUAL POWERS USES IT, THEY SHOULD BE ABLE TO AT LEAST DO THAT MUCH, I GUESS...

SO SHE USED THE SWORD ... FOR SOMETHING LIKE THAT ...?

THAT'S BAD...
HUH?
B... BAD?

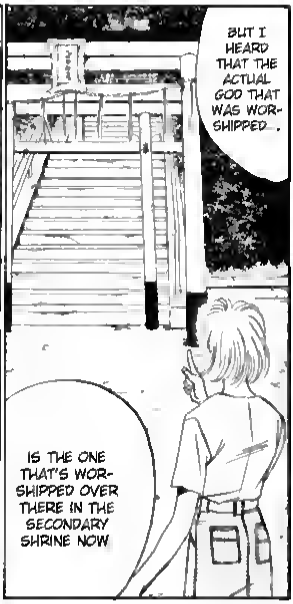

I CAME BY CAR, SO I'LL DRIVE YOU!
OH, THAT'S GREAT!!

YOU'LL SEE HER?!
COULD YOU LET ME MEET YOUR AUNT TODAY?
SEIKO-SAN.

HUH? BUT...
KURAKI-KUN IS A SHRINE PRIEST, ISN'T HE?
E... EMA-SENPAI,
DID YOU TELL HER THAT?!
EMA-KUN, I'M GLAD THAT I TALKED TO YOU!
IT'S SUCH A HELP THAT ONE OF YOUR FRIENDS IS A MEDIUM!
WHA...?
I'M HAPPY THAT I CAN HELP YOU.
NOT AT ALL.
A SHRINE PRIEST ISN'T A MEDIUM.
DON'T JUST MAKE SOME-THING UP.
Hehe
DON'T BE SO STRICT.
EMA-SENPAI, YOU LIKE MY CRAZY EVIL SISTER, DON'T YOU?
I LIKE THEM CRAZY, TOO
SO... YOU WANTED SEIKO-SAN TO THINK WELL OF YOU...
I'M INTO EDUCATED WOMEN.
SHE'S GREAT, ISN'T SHE?
ARE YOU ONLY REALIZING THAT NOW?
IF HE'S THE RIGHT FRIEND FOR ME...
I'M NOT SURE ANY-MORE...
Sigh
I LIKE ALL WOMEN.
BRAZENLY!
IN FACT,

IT'S RUN-DOWN, ISN'T IT?
THE MAIN SHRINE IS OVER THERE. THE GOD WORSHIPPED HERE IS IZANAGI NO MIKOTO.

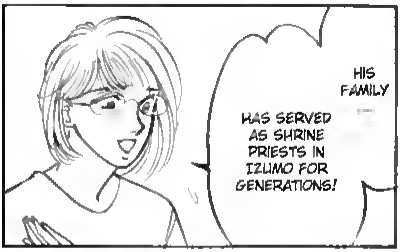
AH.
IT'S THE GOD OF HARVESTS, ISN'T IT?


BUT I HEARD THAT THE ACTUAL GOD THAT WAS WORSHIPPED...
IS THE ONE THAT'S WORSHIPPED OVER THERE IN THE SECONDARY SHRINE NOW

HUH?
THIS FOX...
HAS ONLY ONE EYE.

THAT'S A CHARACTERISTIC MARK COMMON AMONG GODS OF THE IRON PRODUCING NATIONS,
LIKE ONE EYE OR ONE LEG
A FIGURE WITH AN INJURED EYE?
THAT'S ALSO PROOF THAT THEY WORSHIPPED THE GOD ARABAKI.
WHY WAS THE GOD WORSHIPPED HERE MOVED TO THE SECONDARY SHRINE?
BUT ...
OCCUPATIONAL HAZARDS?
IN SHORT, THE OCCUPATIONAL HAZARDS OF THE IRON PRODUCING NATIONS WERE REFLECTED IN THE SHAPE OF THE GODS
THOSE WERE OFTEN THE REASONS FOR RUINING ONE EYE OR ONE LEG
AND IN ORDER TO LIGHT THE FIRE, THEY HAD TO KEEP WORKING A BELLOWS
THE SMITHS OF OLD WATCHED THE COLOUR OF THE FLAMES TO CONTROL THE TEMPERATURE INSIDE THE KILN DAY AFTER DAY. BECAUSE IT WAS HARD TO LOOK AT WITH BOTH EYES, THEY DID IT WITH ONE EYE.

THE GODS OF THE CONQUERED NATIVE POPULATION...
WERE ONLY BARBARIAN GODS TO THE YAMATO DYNASTY.
BY SENDING THEM TO SECONDARY SHRINES, THEY AUTOMATICALLY BECOME OBSOLETE AND FALL INTO OBLIVION OVER TIME.
THAT'S A TREND THAT'S OFTEN SEEN ALL OVER THE COUNTRY...
OF COURSE.
SEIKO!
WHAT ARE YOU HERE FOR?!
AUNTIE!
I SEE...
THAT'S HARSH
WELL, IF THEY DIDN'T GO THAT FAR, THEY WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO STAY IN POWER.


HIS FAMILY
HAS SERVED AS SHRINE PRIESTS IN IZUMO FOR GENERATIONS!

SHRINE PRIESTS

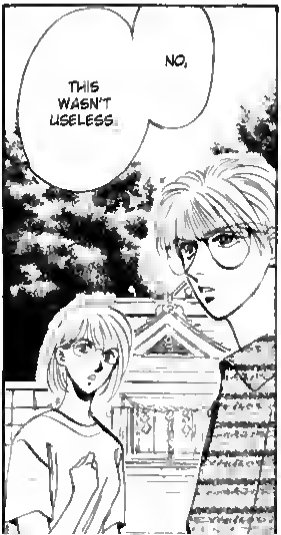
I TOLD YOU A THOUSAND TIMES NOT TO COME HERE...
BUT WE'RE ALL WORRIED ABOUT YOU!
I THOUGHT THAT YOU COULD TALK ABOUT THINGS YOU CAN'T TELL US WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS THE SAME POWERS AS YOU

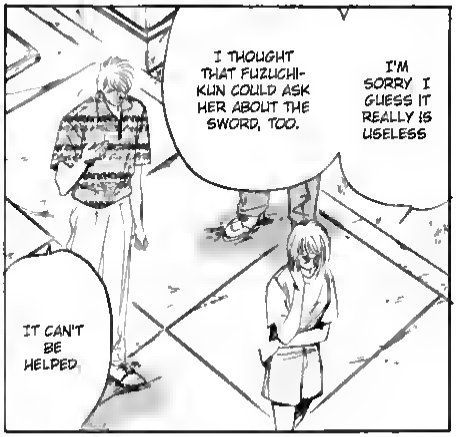
TH
THIS IS

THIS AURA—!!

AUNTIE,
GO HOME!
WAIT!
AUNTIE ...

AH ...!
GO HOME! PLEASE GO HOME!
I... I DON'T KNOW ANY-THING.
AUNTIE!!


NO, THIS WASN'T USELESS.


I THOUGHT THAT FUJUCHI-KUN COULD ASK HER ABOUT THE SWORD, TOO.
I'M SORRY I GUESS IT REALLY IS USELESS
IT CAN'T BE HELPED.

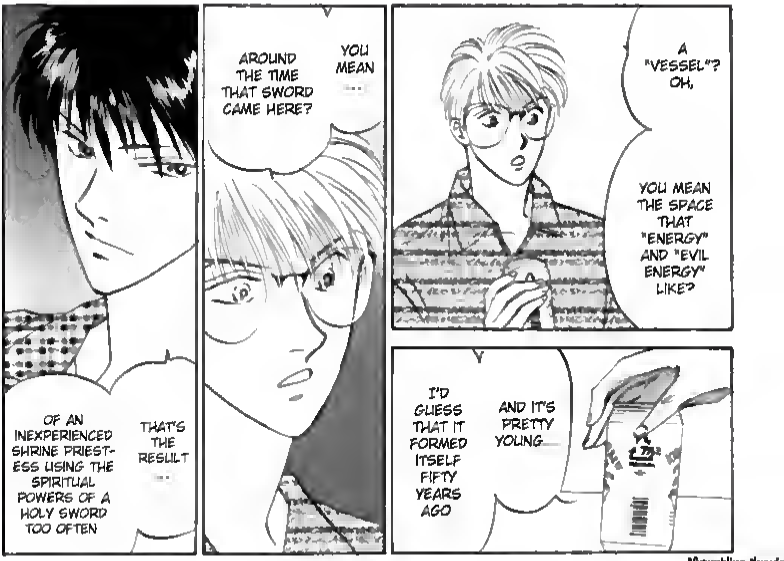
I'M SCARED!
IS HE A MESSENGER OF THE HOLY SWORD?!
FATHER!
WHY DID THIS HAPPEN?
FATHER!
THE AURA OF THAT YOUNG MAN
IS THE SAME AS THE ONE OF THAT HOLY SWORD...!
I'M SCARED!
OUGHT TO KNOW THAT BEST.
SHE HERSELF
SOONER OR LATER..
SHE'LL CALL FOR ME.

TAE!
YO-SHIKO!
JAPAN IS DEFEATED ...!
IT'S HORRIBLE ...!
1945. AUGUST. THE END OF THE WAR.
FATHER...! WHAT SHOULD WE DO...?!
WE SOLD ALL OUR KIMONOS AND EVERYTHING ELSE WE HAD IN EXCHANGE FOR FOOD.
THERE ISN'T ANYTHING LEFT TO SELL ANYMORE. WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO STARVE TO DEATH...!
AND MY YOUNGER SISTER WAS STILL SMALL
MY MOTHER HAD A WEAK CONSTITUTION
AND THERE WEREN'T ANY JOBS
TOKYO WAS BURNT BARE BY THE FLAMES.
THEY WON'T EVEN SHARE ONE POTATO WITH US AT OUR UNCLE'S PLACE.
HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO SURVIVE UNTIL THEN?
WE DON'T EVEN HAVE ANYTHING TO EAT FOR TOMORROW.
THEN, IF WE ASK AT MY UNCLE'S PLACE TO TAKE THEIR NEPHEW IN MARRIAGE UNDER THEIR WING, HE CAN BECOME THE SUCCESSOR ...
IF WE WAIT A LITTLE LONGER... I'M SURE THE MEN WHO WERE CONSCRIPTED WILL COME HOME, TOO!
OUR HISTORIC SHRINE... WAS FINISHED TOO...!

BRIZZ
AH...
CLA
CK
THEN I'D RATHER KILL EVERYBODY WITH THIS SWORD.
AND MYSELF, TOO...
I'D OFTEN...
SEEN STRANGE THINGS EVER SINCE I WAS LITTLE.
BUT AFTER TOUCHING THAT HOLY SWORD, THOSE POWERS BECAME SO STRONG THAT EVEN I WAS AFRAID OF THEM.
SHE HEALED AN INCURABLE DISEASE!!
EVERY-BODY REVERED ME AND MONEY CAME IN AS WELL.
I WAS OVER-JOYED.
THEY SAY THAT SHE MAKES PRE-DICTIONS, TOO!!
THEY SAY THAT SHE'S A VERY POWER-FUL SHRINE PRIESTESS!!

bam
bam
N..
NO...
IT... IT'S COMING
AH!
bam
NO WAY...
NO..
AH...
NO...
AH...
swish
swish
swish

Kyaaa!
DON'T TELL ME...
I HAVE TO GO THROUGH SOMETHING LIKE THIS AGAIN AFTER 50 YEARS!
SHE WAS KIND OF STRANGE,
THAT OLD LADY
HUH?
GET WHAT?
DID YOU
REALLY NOT GET IT?
THAT SHRINE...
IS A "VESSEL".


A "VESSEL"? OH,
YOU MEAN THE SPACE THAT "ENERGY" AND "EVIL ENERGY" LIKE?
AND IT'S PRETTY YOUNG...
I'D GUESS THAT IT FORMED ITSELF FIFTY YEARS AGO
YOU MEAN...
AROUND THE TIME THAT SWORD CAME HERE?
THAT'S THE RESULT...
OF AN INEXPERIENCED SHRINE PRIESTESS USING THE SPIRITUAL POWERS OF A HOLY SWORD TOO OFTEN

*Grumbling thunder

"TAKEMIKATSUCHI"* IS, LIKE ITS NAME SAYS, A SWORD WITH A WILD NATURE
IT ISN'T SURPRISING THAT IT GETS MAD IF SOMEONE WHO ISN'T QUALIFIED USES IT...
THAT ANGER HAS CREATED A "VESSEL"

IF A "VESSEL" IS FORMED, ALL KINDS OF "ENERGY" APPROACH.
THAT OLD LADY SOLD THE HOLY SWORD BECAUSE THINGS GOT BAD,
I'D GUESS.

ALL RIGHT, LET'S GO
HUH?
WHERE?

BUT NOW YOU CAN ASK HER WHERE SHE SOLD IT OFF TO,
IF SHE'LL TELL YOU.

BUT IT'S ALREADY HALF PAST TWELVE!
WHAT?
NOW?
TO TOKO-ROZA-WA,
THE ARAHAKA SHRINE.

ME TOO?!
WE'RE GOING?

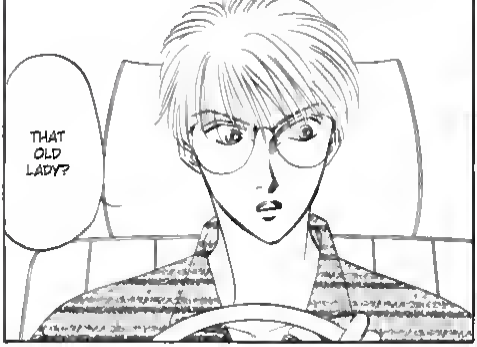
PITCH BLACK IS THE HOUR OF THE GHOSTS.
ESPECIALLY AT A "VESSEL".

IT'S CALLED THE "WITCHING HOUR", ISN'T IT?
THAT ISN'T COMPLETELY MADE UP, EITHER.

IF YOU DON'T DRIVE ME, I CAN'T GO, CAN I?
THE TRAINS ALREADY STOPPED A WHILE AGO.

YOUR THRALL?
WH-
WHAT AM I...

SO...
KURAKI-KUN,
THAT'S WHY YOU KEPT ME HERE ?
LET'S GO, CHAUF-FEUR.


THAT OLD LADY?

SHE SAID...
SHE STARTED ACTING STRANGE A YEAR AGO, RIGHT?

MAYBE AFTER 50 YEARS...
THE "DAY OF RECKONING" IS COMING FOR HER.

AND ARE GUSHING OUT NOW FOR SOME REASON
THE SPIRITUAL POWERS THAT RAN OPPOSITE TO "TAKEMIKAZUCHI'S" PROBABLY ACCUMULATED...
"DAY OF RECKONING"?

WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO THAT OLD LADY?
IF THAT KEEPS UP, SHE'LL DESTROY HERSELF.
AND THEN YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO ASK HER ... ABOUT "TAKEMIKAZUCHI'S" WHEREABOUTS ANYMORE.
I'M GOING TO... CALM THE ANGER OF THAT "VESSEL" BEFORE THAT.
Sshh
IS THIS HER HOUSE?
WOAH! THIS PLACE IS PRETTY CREEPY

I'LL HAVE A LOOK AT THE MAIN SHRINE.
SHE'S NOT AT HOME, I GUESS.
WELL,
I'LL TAKE A LOOK AT THE BACK DOOR AND THEN MEET YOU IN THE MAIN SHRINE.
BAM
BAM
BAM
EXCUSE ME, IS ANYONE HOME?
HELLO!
SLEEK
HMM

STEP
CREAK
ZING

CLATTER
AH!
WHOOSH
Waah!
SHRINE PRIEST-ESS OF ARABAKI?
ARE YOU THAT AFRAID OF THE "DAY OF RECK-ONING",
Huff
Huff
N... NO!

B...
ARE YOU STILL INEXPERIENCED EVEN AFTER 50 YEARS?

YOU CALLED ME SHRINE PRIESTESS..
SHRINE PRIESTESS.

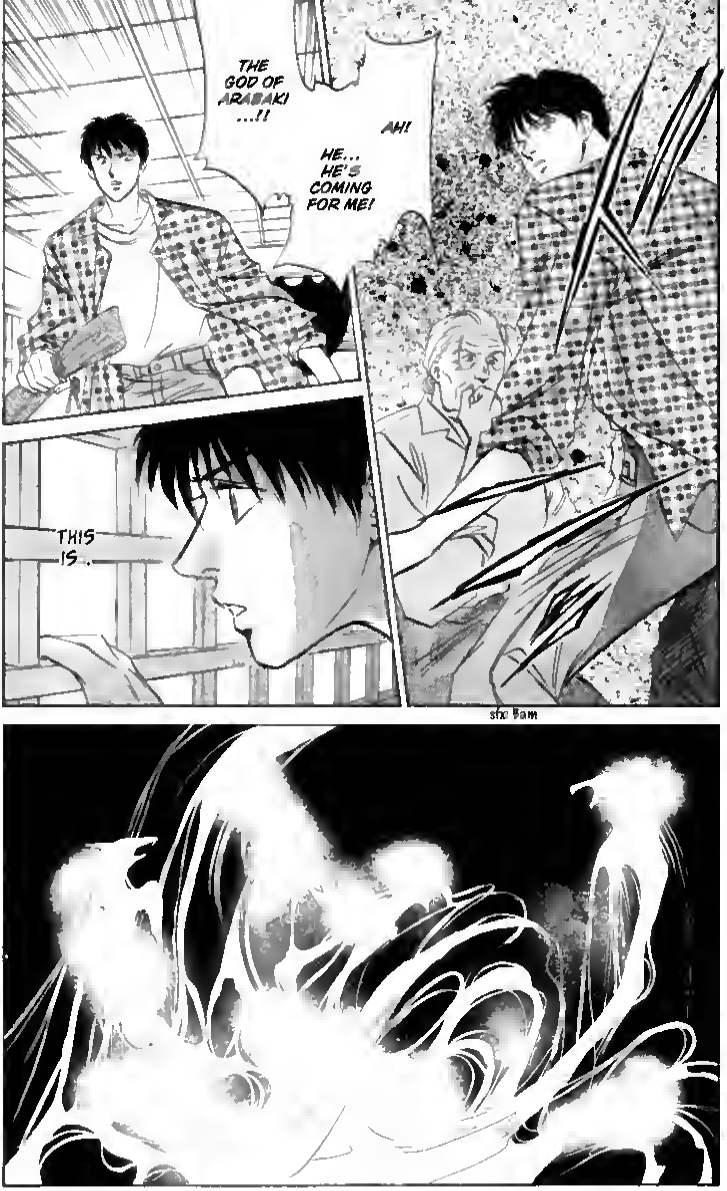
A SHRINE PRIEST OF IZUMO IN SEARCH OF A HOLY SWORD!
I AM...

BOY?!
WH-WHO...
ARE YOU?

CALLED "TAKEMI-KAZUCHI"
THAT'S A HOLY TREASURE OF IZUMO...
ARE YOU A MESSENGER OF THE HOLY SWORD?!
I... I KNEW IT...
THERE WAS NO OTHER WAY TO SURVIVE AFTER THE WAR..!!
I... I HAD NO CHOICE!
MY MOTHER AND MY LITTLE SISTER DEPENDED ON ME -- WE ONLY HAD THE MONEY FROM MY PRAYERS
SWISH
SWISH
WHAT HAPPENS WHEN SOMEONE UNQUALIFIED USES IT.
YOU MUST KNOW FROM EXPERIENCE...
YOU HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO ACCEPT YOUR PUNISHMENT, I GUESS.
THEN ...

SAVE ME...
SAVE ME, SHRINE PRIEST OF IZUMO!
PLEASE APPEASE THE ANGER OF THE HOLY SWORD!
THE GOD OF ARABAKI IS COMING! HE TRIES TO DRAG ME INTO THE DARKNESS EVERY NIGHT!
THEN TELL ME THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE HOLY SWORD!

AN ANTIQUE DEALER FROM KANDA?
AND I DIDN'T WANT TO KNOW WHO THE BUYER WAS, EITHER!
I WANTED TO GET AWAY FROM THE SWORD!
S.. SOMEONE WHO WAS INTERESTED IN IT CAME AND I SOLD IT TO HIM ..!
HE SAID THAT HE WAS AN ANTIQUE DEALER FROM KANDA!
WHAT'S HIS NAME?
I.. I DON'T KNOW!

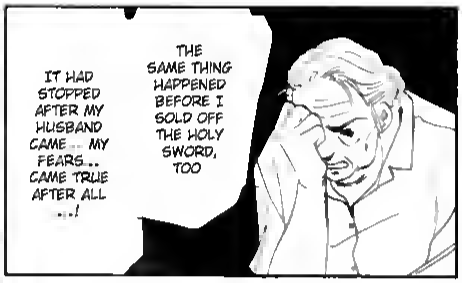

THE GOD OF ARABAKI ...!!
AH!
HE... HE'S COMING FOR ME!
THIS IS...
sfx: Bam

THE ONE-EYED...
WORSHIPPED AT THE SECONDARY SHRINE!
THE GOD ARABAKI.
FOX!

BAM
O... ONE YEAR AGO,
AFTER MY HUSBAND PASSED AWAY...
WHEN DID THE GOD START APPEARING LIKE THIS?!

BAM
BAM
IT'S PRETTY MALICIOUS
IS THIS REALLY "TAKEMI-KAZUCHI'S" DOING...?!

SO SHE REALLY ISN'T HERE?
WE PROBABLY CAME HERE FOR NOTHING...


THE SAME THING HAPPENED BEFORE I SOLD OFF THE HOLY SWORD, TOO
IT HAD STOPPED AFTER MY HUSBAND CAME... MY FEARS... CAME TRUE AFTER ALL...!

FOR SOME REASON THAT DOESN'T FIT..
WAS THE DEATH OF HER HUSBAND, A SHINTO PRIEST, THE TRIGGER?
BUT...

HUH..?

DAMN IT!
NANACHI!
Woah!
TH... THAT'S ...
SWISH
What's this?!

TWANG
AH!
TAKE THIS!
I... IS THIS A HOLY SWORD?
THIS IS...
THE HOLY SWORD "KAGU-TSUCHI".
YOU...
D... DON'T TELL ME...
I'LL LEND YOU MY POWER!
IF SOME-THING HAPPENS, DON'T LET GO OF IT!

NO MATTER HOW POWERFUL A SHRINE PRIEST YOU ARE...
DO YOU INTEND TO GO OUTSIDE WITHOUT A HOLY SWORD?!
H... HE'LL DEVOUR YOU!!
GET OUT OF MY WAY!
NANACHI!!